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July 1, 2014

"Spiritual Healer" Convicted in Norwalk Rape Case

A Victorville man who identified himself as a "spiritual healer" was convicted today of sexual assault, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Jose Romulo Felix, 42, pleaded no contest to rape and sexual battery by fraud before Judge Larry Knupp of the Los Angeles County Superior Court in Norwalk.

The defendant is expected to be sentenced July 30 to nine years in state prison. Felix also will have to register as a sex offender for life.

Deputy District Attorney Heba Matta, who prosecuted the case, said Felix advertised in Spanish newspapers that he was a "spiritual healer" who could solve love issues for women.

On Jan. 15, 2013, a woman visited Felix at his makeshift office in Norwalk and was sexually assaulted, Matta said. The victim tried to fight back, but Felix forced himself on her, the prosecutor said.

Following the assault, the victim reported the attack and law enforcement began an investigation. Less than a month later, the defendant was arrested in connection with the crime.

The case was investigated by the Downey Police Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.